

ANARTA MELANOPA (THUNBERG) (LEP.: HADENINAE) IN NORTHUMBERLAND. — On the afternoon of 12th June, 1974, a single male was taken in flight over vegetation dominated by *Empetrum nigrum* L., on Cheviot Hill. Dr. Long of the Hancock Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne, tells us that several were seen in flight on Cheviot, some time during the early 1950s, by Lieut. Col. Logan-Home of Duns, Berwickshire, who was unable to catch any and thereby confirm the record.

The only other published record outside Highland Scotland, appears to be from the Southern Uplands, by Ratcliffe (1964, *Entom. mon. Mag.*, **100**: 209).

The example from Cheviot is quite indistinguishable from specimens taken at Rannoch, in the Hancock Museum collections. It would appear unnecessary to collect further specimens. The size and extent of the colony is unknown. The specimen has been donated to the Hancock Museum where it may be viewed.

The recent discovery of *Xestia alpicola* (Zetterstedt) in the Northern Pennines by Withers (1974, *Ent. Gaz.*, **25**: 87-88), suggests that these and other "Highland" lepidoptera could be found elsewhere in Northern England and Southern Scotland. Speculative visits to other sites could prove worthwhile.— B. WALLACE, Department of Plant Biology, The University, Newcastle upon Tyne; and I. D. WALLACE, Department of Invertebrate Zoology, Merseyside County Museums, Liverpool.

Current Literature

Rearing the Hymenoptera Parasitica by K. G. V. Smith.

16 + 13 figs. A.E.S. Leaflet No. 35, 1974. 40p.

Knowledge of hymenoptera parasitica (also diptera parasitica) could be greatly increased if those who breed feral insects were to retain their parasite material with a note of host species, localities and any other available information. The British Museum (Nat. Hist.) is always glad to receive such material.

This useful, well documented pamphlet tells how best to deal with such bred hymenoptera, gives brief particulars of some of the more interesting parasites and an account of the various host orders. A notable feature is the specialised bibliography of nearly 100 references. — J.M.C.-H.

Butterflies by George E. Hyde. 64 pp., 68 coloured and 17 black and white photographs. 9" x 7", paperback. Almark Publishing Co. Ltd., 1974. £1.25.

The most striking feature of this slim volume is its generally high standard of photography and colour reproduction. Another